

MOON FISH

A Sensory Drama by Gill Brigg

Pupils and adult supporters work in pairs.

There is a wheeled chair for the teacher.

The room is made dark slowly.

Screens are turned off and a note is placed on the door: 'Please Do Not Disturb'.

Teacher says: ***We will all be working in a story together.***

Check-in with everyone that they are ready to start.

The teacher invites the pupils to take part in a story that is set in China.

China is a big, big land with lots of old, old stories. This is an old story from China. There once was a woman who caught fish. That was her job. Catching fish. She caught fish at night when there was no sun.

The space is made as dark as possible. Lanterns are lit and hung around the space.

She fished at night because it was cooler and she was happy to fish in the gentle breeze.

Giant fan is waved near to the pupils. The lanterns will sway in the breeze. A gong or cymbal is used gently to create gentle crescendos as the breeze increases.

There was a beautiful moon. But not in the sky. On the sea. The moon was on the sea. She took her fishing rod and fished for the moon.

The (cardboard) moon appears on the end of the fishing rod. An adult uses a torch to illuminate the moon as it moves very slowly amongst the pupils.

Whilst this is happening mirrors and torches are used with pupils. They are encouraged to see their reflection.

The lady could not eat the moon. She needed to catch a fish. She put the moon back in the sea and waited to catch a fish.

Chinese music is played quietly. Adults work with brushes and water to paint the Chinese character for 'fish' on the hands, feet or faces of the pupils according to their preference.

Soon she caught a big fish which she took home to her family. They cooked it and had a feast.

Uncooked rice is offered to the pupils to pour into the gong and cymbals.

Ginger and spices are handed round to smell and taste.
Music is gently under-scoring this activity.

All of these stimuli are now available in the room and adults invite their pupils to interact with their chosen activity.

That is the end of the story about the moon and the fish.

The session ends with lots of praise.

The room is calmly returned to its usual state.

You will need:

'Please Do Not Disturb' sign
Wheeled chair
Paper lanterns with torches inside
Giant fan
Gong/cymbals
Cane fishing rod with a cardboard moon attached
Mirrors
Torches
Traditional Chinese music
Paintbrushes of various sizes
Pots of water
Uncooked rice
Ginger
Chinese 5 spice